



# **Detroit Water and Sewerage Department Meeting Minutes - Final Board of Water Commissioners**

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Wednesday, April 18, 2018

6:00 PM

Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church  
21150 Moross Rd  
Detroit, Michigan 48236

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## **Location and Time Change: Regular Meeting**

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Einheuser called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

### **2. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 5 - Commissioner Michael Einheuser, Commissioner Mary Blackmon, John Henry Davis, Jane Garcia and Jonathan Kinloch

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Linda Forte and Commissioner Lane Coleman

### **3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Einheuser requested approval of the agenda.

Item No. 18-0093 Contract for Req #445138 Parts and Repair Services for DWSD Owned John Deere Equipment was added to the agenda.

**A motion was made by Commissioner John Henry Davis, seconded by Commissioner Jane Garcia that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Einheuser requested approval of the minutes of March 21, 2018.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Jane Garcia that the minutes be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

### **5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes per speaker)**

1. Joseph Romano of 4475 Kensington came before the Board regarding DWSD's drainage policy and his drainage rate. Mr. Romano was referred to the Deputy Director's office.

2. Aziz Khondker of 2009 E. Grand Blvd. came before the Board regarding drainage overcharge and improper billing. Mr. Khondker was referred to the stormwater drainage team.

3. Carl Carter of 4197 Belvedere came before the Board asking why his bill remains

the same when there was no usage for 30 days. Mr. Carter was referred to the customer care group.

4. Teddi Ragland of 2070 Delaware came before the Board regarding the drainage charges for impervious surfaces and if customers are notified about any upgrade costs.

5. Russ Bellant came before the Board on a previous occasion seeking a hydrant fee waiver for a demolition. He thanked the department for the waiver.

6. Gerald Carson of 17645 Grandville came before the Board regarding an outrageous water bill. Mr. Carson was referred to Dr. Marc Antonie Cooper, Chief Customer Care Officer.

7. William Davis came before the Board asking the department to publish the number of homes with boiler systems that require water for heat.

8. Phoebe Woodberry came before the Board to ask why the Kiosks were removed from the Rite Aids. Director Brown replied that there was a contractual issue and the department is negotiating a new contract.

9. Dr. Cheryl Moore of the North Central Block Club Association came to thank the Board for holding the community meeting. She came to report a sinkhole located at 18031 Dequindre and 18039 Dequindre Street. She also came regarding her water billing at 18600 Joseph Campau. Dr. Moore was referred to the customer care group.

10. Michelle Grier of Radnor Street came before the Board questioning the level of customer service received when inquiring about the department's policy on new service deposit.

11. Joanna Underwood came before the Board to oppose the drainage fee and the department should seek an affordable water plan.

12. Theodore Washington came before the Board regarding the lot he purchased and asked how he can reduce or eliminate the costs on the driveway. Mr. Washington was referred to the drainage team.

13. Classie Washington of 6115 15th Street came before the Board asking how she can get her name removed from the bill. Ms. Washington was referred to the customer care group.

14. Loretta Yancy of 3250 Drexel came before the Board about cloudy water and sewer cleaning. She asked why are downspouts removal required and believes it has destroyed the concrete at her home. Director Brown replied that the downspout removal is a state law and suggested that she file a claim. The department will investigate and make a recommendation.

15. Gloria Anderson of 5464 Baldwin came before the Board on behalf of her mom regarding a drainage charge for the lot she purchased next door and why she receives two separate bills. Director Brown replied the department would investigate property for leakage, and if deemed necessary will refer to the toilet replacement program. He also suggest that she sign up for the WRAP program.

16. Demeeco Williams, Chief Director of Hydrant Detroit came before the Board out of concern and to seek reconciliation on water shutoffs. He suggested the following: 1)

institute a residential moratorium; 2) enforce commercial property shutoffs to abandoned buildings and structures; 3) institute water relief amnesty; 4) hold another water affordability fair; and 5) ensure community outreach.

17. Abena Hogan of 9270 Ward St. came before the Board regarding her water bill. She stated that her bill has been consistent monthly with the exception of one month where there appeared to be a hike in her bill. Director Brown replied that the department would audit the account.

18. Tom O'Brien of 17405 Lahser came before the Board seeking the results of an engineering study on a drainage adjustment rate. Deputy Director Mobley will follow-up with staff on the status.

## 6. COMMUNICATIONS

[18-0090](#)

### Receipt of Correspondence

Sponsors: Pospiech

Attachments: [DWSD MARCH 2018 RECD FOIA REQUESTS REDACTED](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Jane Garcia that this Communication or Report be received and filed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

## 7. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS

There was none.

## 8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

[18-0043](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **execute a resolution pertaining to securing low interest loan assistance through the Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWRF) for Water Main Replacement as detailed in the FY19 DWRF Project Plan**, and also authorizes the Director to take such actions as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Naughton

Attachments: [FINAL 2018-04-16 DWSD DWRF Project Plan\\_1\\_1](#)  
[18-0043 Resolution](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Mary Blackmon that this Capital Improvement Project be adopted. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

[18-0071](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve contract No. 6001373, Mythics Order for Oracle Cloud Computing Services in an amount not to exceed \$4,244,219.13 for three years**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Rainey

Attachments: [CL- DWSD PaaS renewal 022618 Final](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner John Henry Davis that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

[18-0077](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **enter into Contract No. WS-705 "Water System Improvements: Various Streets Throughout the City of Detroit" with Major Cement Company (Contractor), at a cost not to exceed \$12,839,074.00 for a duration of 730 calendar days**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Mobley

**A motion was made by Commissioner John Henry Davis, seconded by Commissioner Jane Garcia that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

[18-0079](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **secure a one-time purchase of new HVAC roof-top units and the related installation services from Johnson Control Inc. for a total amount of \$419,933.00** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Naughton

**A motion was made by Commissioner John Henry Davis, seconded by Commissioner Mary Blackmon that this Procurement, Goods and Services be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

[18-0093](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **enter into Contract No. 6001390, Furnish: As requested, provide parts and/or repair services for John Deere Equipment owned by the Detroit Water & Sewerage Department (DWSD); for a period of two (2) years at a cost not to exceed \$180,000.00**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Naughton

A motion was made by Commissioner John Henry Davis, seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

**10. DIRECTOR'S METRICS**

[18-0091](#)

**Director's Metrics**

**Sponsors:** Brown

**Attachments:** [18-0091 Board Report - Metrics - 04182018](#)

**This Communication or Report was received and filed.**

**11. COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Garcia stated that it means a lot that the department is hiring Detroiters; contracts are being awarded to minorities; and hiring returning citizens. She commended the Director and staff for their efforts.

Commissioner Davis thanked leadership and staff for their support with the department's decision-making.

Commissioner Kinloch commended the executive team and staff on handling and addressing community concerns. He's proud to witness the department's response effort.

**12. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR**

Chairman Einheuser on behalf of the Board of Water Commissioners welcomed Commissioner Kinloch. He thanked the community, Reverend James J. Minnick and Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church for their hospitality.

**13. OTHER MATTERS**

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Einhueser requested a motion to adjourn.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner John Henry Davis that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.**

**There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.**